

The Florida School Health and Education Consortium, Florida Action for Healthy Kids Partnership, and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation formed Florida's Coordinated School Health Partnership (CSHP). Members represent professional associations, foundations, not-for profit organizations, business, insurers, health and education. The partnership is committed to working together to improve the health of children, adolescents, and staff in Florida schools. 2009 goals focus on advocacy, policy, partnership, access to health care for all children and educating stakeholders about school health and wellness issues.

The mission of the Coordinated School Health Partnership is: ***Health literate and health practicing students and staff in all Florida schools***

Purpose: Facilitating the creation of policies and environments that provide students and staff the opportunity to reach their personal potential by means of positive health related decision making-skills and access to health care.

5 year goals and strategies selected include:

1. Decrease school absenteeism/increase attendance.
  - a. Advocate for adequate numbers of school nurses, health and physical education teachers, and counselors.
  - b. Reduce the nurse to student ratio to 1:2000.
  - c. Increase the number of students completing health education courses in middle and high school.
  - d. All school-aged children insured and with a medical and dental home.
2. Decrease health related financial risk to the school system.
  - a. Decrease medication errors and other health related risks.
  - b. Implement staff wellness in all districts.
3. Increase knowledge and involvement of parents and community in school health and wellness initiatives.
  - a. Advocate for including health representative in every School Advisory Councils (SAC) and including a health related goal in School Improvement Plans.
  - b. Work with Florida Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and other organizations to keep parents informed of issues and explore opportunities for collaboration.
  - c. Engage community/business representatives as participating members of state level CSHP and district level School Health Advisory Committees (SHAC's).
4. Increase the number of districts that have policies that lead to sustainability and high levels of performance in all eight components of the Coordinated School Health model. The eight components include:
  - Health education
  - Physical education
  - School Health Services
  - Counseling, psychological and social services
  - Healthy School Environments
  - Staff Wellness
  - Family and Community Involvement
  - a. Promote the Florida Healthy School District Assessment Tool (FHSAT).
  - b. Recognize and reward districts meeting bronze, silver, gold levels defined by the Florida Healthy School District Award Criterion (FHSDAC).
  - c. Facilitate the development of Healthy School Teams in all Florida schools.
  - d. Provide training on Florida policy and program best practices.

Activities for January 2009-December 2009 include advocacy and education to:

- Reduce the student to nurse ratio to 1:2000.
- Increase the number of students completing health education courses in middle and high school.
- Increase the number of children that are insured and have a medical and dental home.
- Increase the number of districts that have policies that lead to sustainability and high levels of performance.

Alliance for a Healthier Generation <http://www.healthiergeneration.org/>

Action for Healthy Kids <http://actionforhealthykids.org/>